



The impacts of climate change

Author(s):	Sinclair M
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Abstract:

South-eastern Australia is experiencing prolonged drought, record temperatures and devastating forest fires due to the rising impacts of climate change. The lower lakes of the Murray River estuary are rapidly drying up due to low rainfall, poorly managed and over-allocated irrigation quotas. Heat wave conditions have been experienced in many communities. Coastal communities are also facing increased challenges by the climate change impact of gradual rise in sea levels. The Department of Sustainability and Environment Climate Change Adaptation Program has implemented a Future Coasts Project for accessing the impacts of climate change. A seamless digital elevation model is being produced to model the impact of sea level rise, storm surges, inundation and erosion to determine appropriate management and mitigation strategies. Similar climate change projects in the coastal zone have been commenced by the Department of Planning and Infrastructure in Western Australia and the Department of Environment and Climate Change in New South Wales.

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Resource Description

Exposure :

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Extreme Weather Event, Food/Water Quality, Precipitation, Sea Level Rise, Temperature

Extreme Weather Event: Drought, Wildfires

Food/Water Quality: Other Water Quality Issue

Water Quality (other): Ocean temperature

Temperature: Extreme Heat

Geographic Feature:

resource focuses on specific type of geography

Ocean/Coastal

Geographic Location:

resource focuses on specific location

Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal

Non-United States

Non-United States: Australasia

Health Impact: 

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Health Outcome Unspecified

Resource Type: 

format or standard characteristic of resource

Policy/Opinion

Timescale: 

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified